20th December 1954]

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) There is no such scheme in Malabar district. But a scheme for conducting a survey of the pepper crop in the West Coast is under the consideration of the Government.

" (*b*) In view of the answer to clause (*a*) of the question this does not arise."

Issue of licences for opening new rice mills.

* 474 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state with reference to the answers to the supplementary questions to question No. 385, answered on 26th March 1954—

(*a*) whether the Government have arrived at any decision regarding the issue of licences to rice mills; and

(*b*) if so, what it is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) At present there is no ban on the issue of licences for opening of new rice mills or the expansion of the existing rice mills in this State. The question whether a ban could or should be imposed for the sake of encouraging hand-pounding of rice is under the examination of the Planning Commission and the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board. The Government of India have also appointed a Committee to examine in detail the various problems connected with the milling of rice. The State Government will take necessary action after considering the results of these enquiries."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" May I know how many new licences have been granted by this Government in a year? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice, Sir."

Development of village ghanis.

* 475 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any scheme for the development of village *ghanis;* and

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the same will be placed on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The details of the scheme are briefly as follows :—

' It has been proposed to set up 30 demonstration *chekku* centres in select National Extension Service and Community Project Blocks. Each centre will be a combined production and training centre. Seven hundred and fifty oil mongers will be trained in the use of the improved Wardha type *chekkus* during the next year. The scheme includes

[20th December 1954

provision for payment of stipends to trainees and for the conversion of the old-type *chekkus* into the Wardha-type *chekkus*. The total estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 1,87,500 non-recurring and Rs. 1,69,536 recurring. The proposal is under the active consideration of the Government.''

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—'' Sir, in the original question the word *ghanis* has been mentioned but in the answer of the Hon. Minister the word *chekkus* has been mentioned. I do not understand what these two terms mean? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' *Chekku* is செக்கு in Tamil.''

Shifting of the headquarters of the Agricultural Demonstrator, from Palladam to Tiruppur.

* 476 *Q.*—SRI S. R. ARUMUGHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for shifting the Agricultural Demonstrator's Office from Palladam to Tiruppur in Coimbatore district; and

(*b*) whether any representation was made to the Government to re-shift the same to Palladam and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' (*a*) The headquarters of the Agricultural Demonstrator was shifted by the Director of Agriculture from Palladam to Tiruppur as the latter place was more convenient from the administrative point of view.

'' (*b*) The Government have not received any representation.''

Appointment of village guides.

* 477 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many village guides were recently appointed by the Government; and

(*b*) their functions and qualifications?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' (*a*) One hundred and five Village Guides were recently appointed.

'' (*b*) The principal role of the Village Guide is to energise the life of the Village Community which has generally become stagnant and unresponsive to any change from the traditional pattern. His job is to get the villagers to think and talk about their problems, needs and desires. He should inspire village people to work to live better and also create in them a desire to learn how to live better, by exciting their interest to the findings and recommendation of science. In short the pivot of the Community Project Scheme is the Village Guide.